

CV and Election Statement – Niels Christian Barkholt

This is the CV for Niels Christian Barkholt, vice president since 2012 of the Danish Association of Social Workers.

- Educated as a social worker in 1999
- Social worker, child protection, Brøndby 2000-2007
- Professional manager, child protection, Copenhagen 2007-2007
- Educated as sociologist, cand.scient.soc., University of Aalborg, Denmark 2007
- Consultant, Danish Association of Social Work 2007-2009
- Social Innovation consultant, Faxe 2009-2012
- Vice President, Danish Association of Social Workers 2012-
- Chair of Ethical Counsel in Danish Association of Social Workers 2003-2007
- Founder of Center of Professional practice 2011

I am 46 years of age and I live with my future wife Inge and our 4 children in Copenhagen.

Election statement

I have been engaged in international cooperation and knowledge sharing between social workers since I became a social worker. I have been a deputy executive member in IFSW Europe for one year. I have been learning the culture and the dynamics of the processes around the work in the executive. It takes time to get the full understanding to contribute on a higher level. Now I would like to take this work to the next level as an ordinary executive member. I will invest more time in the international cooperation and the tasks of the executive. I believe there is a major task for IFSW Europe to ensure that all countries have a broad representation from members in their own country. I believe that IFSW Europe can contribute to this development, which we all will benefit from in a more united Europe of social workers. A large number of members in each country will make IFSW Europe stronger, both financially and when it comes to support and engagement.

It motivates and inspires me more than anything to exchange knowledge between social workers and countries with various conditions and challenges. I think it is both necessary and possible to develop new ways of bringing social workers and social workers knowledge together. I believe that knowledge is the organizations' most valuable tool to bring about change, internally among social workers as well as through cooperation with existing alliances and political actors at European level. Knowledge reflects conditions in our own countries and can create new possibilities and new ways of thinking. In that way it is a powerful political tool to change conditions for vulnerable people and social workers working conditions. It takes energy and determination and I would like to continue to offer that and I will have a powerful organization behind me. I believe in a stronger inclusive Europe.